A COUNTRY THEATRE,

Will Seat Six Hundred, and Is Attractive and Cheap.

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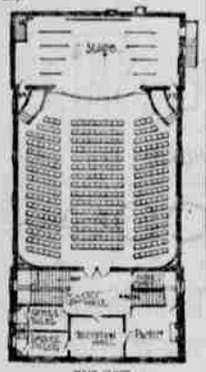
The modern system of theatrical management has not only had an appreciable effect upon the drama itself and the artists who portray that drama, but also upon the structures in which it is produced. Thirty years ago the beside of traveling players which traversed through the country, visiting only the larger towns, were content to play in halls, or even barns and school houses, with no scenery except a drop curtain in some instances. The introduction of the combination system has materially changed all this, and the growth of stage realism, in which fire engines, waterfalls, architectural structures, etc., are met upon the stage now necessitates suitable theatres in which plays ranging from the silliest farce to the most elaborate spectacular representations can be produced as adjuncts to the progressive country towns.

FRONT ELEVATION.

These cuts represent the plans and front elevation of a small theatre for a town of from ten to fifteen thousand inhabitants.

The first floor is occupied by a large store in the front part, while the rest is devoted to dressing rooms and stage purposes. From the alley leaves a strong iron stairway leads from the sidewalk to the stage. The main entrance to the theatre is in the front, at one side. From the vestibule is broad staircase, broken by a large landing leads directly to the foyer of the theatre and to the gallery stairs. The box office is placed at the right side of the foyer, convenient to the main entrance. In addition to the main auditorium and stage, this floor contains a parlor, reception room, and ladies' and gentlemen's toilet rooms. In the third story is the gallery of the theatre, and a large foyer room with necessary appurtenances complete. There are two private boxes in the parquet and two in the gallery.

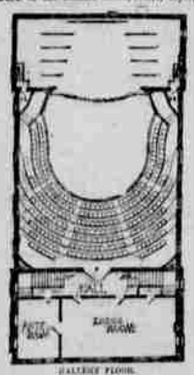


MAIN FLOOR.

The building is of brick with stone trimmings. A substantial with a concrete floor extends under the entire building. In it are a toilet room, furnace room, store room and cellars for the use of the occupants of the store.

The theatre is lighted by electricity and heated by steam and ventilated by a patent process. The entire house is supplied with automatic folding chairs; those in the parquet are handsomely upholstered in blue plush, and all are supplied with arm rests and hat and cloak rods. The seats are so arranged that a view of the whole stage can be obtained from any one of them.

The "stage" dressing room is at the left of the stage, with property room on the right. The interior woodwork of the main theatre is of white wine polished, the woodwork of the outside doors, stairs, foyer, and all rooms in the second and third stories in front are finished in light oak. The walls of the proscenium arch and ceilings are decorated with papier mache ornaments in relief.



GALLERY FLOOR.

The roof is of slate.

The stairs are provided with strong newels, balusters and railings. The outside doors open outward, to preclude possibility of danger in case of a panic. The seating capacity is about 600, including boxes.

D. W. KING.

When You Light a Fire.

Following is a scientific description of what happens when you light a fire: The phosphorus on a match is raised by friction to a temperature of 150 degs. Fahrenheit, at which it ignites. It raises the temperature of the sulphur, if it is a sulphur match, to 300 degs., when the sulphur begins to burn. The sulphur raises the heat to 800 degs., when the wood takes up the work, and produces a temperature of 1000 degs., or shock the coal igniter.—Boston Transcript.

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